(b) when was tax exemption granted to R.S.S. on income from Guru Dakshina and for what reasons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) Income-tax arrears pending against the R.S.S. are as under:

Asstt. Year.	Arrear demand
	Rs.
1962-63	1538
1970-71	2216
1984-85	2450
1985-86	1660
1986-87	730
	8594

(b) The Guru Dakshina received by RSS from its members does not constitute income for income-tax purposes. Therefore, question of granting exemption does not arise

Plans to bring Waste, Barren and Degraded Land under Green Cover

817. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any specific plans to bring the huge waste, barren and degraded lands available in the country under green cover;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and what progress has been made during the last one year in this direction; and

(c) what is the exact role played by the National Wastelands Development Board towards the implementation of these plans in the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) The National Wastelands Development Board was set up in 1985-86 to bring under productive use wastelands in the country through afforestation. In the last three years, a total area of about 5.04 million hectares has been convered under the afforestation programme, which includes 1.77 million hectares in 1987-88.

(b) The National Wastelands Development Board is the nodal agency for monitoring the afforestation programme in the country and is also responsible for the implementation of Centrally Sponsored Scheme on afforestation.

Area under Forests

818. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what have been the areas under reserved forests, protected forests and private forests in the country during the last three years; Statewise:

(b) what were the targeted areas for such forests in the Seventh Five Year Plan and what are the achievements;

(c) what steps are being taken to achieve the targets to help create healthy environment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Details of areas under reserved forests, protected forests and unclassed forests in the country during the years 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1985-86 are given, States